

County Borough
of Dewsbury.



Annual Report UPON THE HEALTH OF DEWSBURY, FOR THE YEAR 1920.

BY O. M. HOLDEN, D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, County Borough of Dewsbury.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my first Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Borough. This report has been prepared in accordance with the L.G.B. Order of March 23rd, 1891, Article 18, Section 14, and has followed the lines indicated in the Memo. of the Ministry of Health, dated Feb., 1921.

The year 1920 has been a busy one, and may be accurately described as constructive. Whitley Grange was opened as a hospital for Tuberculosis in September and has done useful work since then. The Tuberculosis Dispensary work was taken over from the W.R.C.C. at the expiration of the lease they held on September 1st. New rooms were fitted up at Northfields House, as those previously occupied were allocated to the new School Clinic.

It was also decided to establish a Maternity Home, and Moorlands House was chosen for the purpose. The consent of the Ministry of Health is now awaited. Sanction was given for a new branch Maternity Clinic at Thornhill.

Particular attention has been paid during 1920 to Smoke and other Trade Nuisances. Close watch has also been directed towards the strict carrying out of the Midwives Acts. Valuable help in this direction has been rendered by private medical practitioners. The nurse whom you sent for midwifery training and whom you subsidise, commenced in practice as a midwife in May. Another of your Health Visitors passed her C.M.B. examination, and a third is now in training.

Mr. James Thackray, your Chief Sanitary Inspector, retired at the end of the year after 34 years spent in your service. He was appointed as Consulting Sanitary Inspector.

No serious epidemics have occurred during the year, and the Death rate 14.23 is the lowest recorded since amalgamation. The Infantile Mortality, 110.15 is still high.

The duties and responsibilities of Public Health Departments continue to increase. In view of recent developments, I am obliged to say that the Clerical Staff of your Health Department is inadequate. In particular, the Sanitary Inspector's branch requires a clerk.

I wish to express my appreciation to my Staff for their loyalty during the year, and I beg to thank you, gentlemen, for the way which you have received any recommendations or suggestions I have put forward.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

OSCAR M. HOLDEN.

Medical Officer of Health's Department, 1920.

Medical Officer of Health, etc.

OSCAR M. HOLDEN, M.B., CH.B., M.D., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

JAMES THACKRAY.

Sanitary Inspectors.

L. SHAW, (CERTIF. R.S.INST.)

H. STEELE, (DITTO)

E. NEWBOULD, (CERTIF. A.S.I. & MEAT CERTIF.)

Health Visitors.

M. MAHON.

K. MAHON, C.M.B.

N. BAXTER, C.M.B.

* W. HARTLEY, C.M.B.

L. HARRISON, C.M.B.

Tuberculosis Nurse.

W. HARTLEY, C.M.B.

Clerks.

E. AUTY, (CERTIF. ROYAL SAN. INST.)

D. BARBER.

Disinfecto and Steam Disinfecto Attendant.

F. A. DEWSNAP.

* Appointed Tuberculosis Nurse in September, 1920.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Population—Census 1911	...	...	...	53,351
Estimated Population 1920	...	...	...	55,080
Birth Rate per 1,000	...	...	...	23.07
Death Rate per 1,000 living	...	...	...	14.23
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births	..	...	...	110.1
Acreage of Borough...	...	...	...	6,720
Density of Population	...	...	...	8.2/acre
Death Rate from Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.671
Death Rate from Respiratory Diseases...	...	..	..	1.152

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Population (Census 1911)	...	53,351
Estimated, 1920	...	55,080

The main part of the town is situated in a hollow comprising a portion of the Calder Valley. As a whole, the town is hilly. The chief occupations are those incidental to heavy woollen goods manufacture, coal-mining, rags and rag flock, glass blowing, etc.

The town has grown up in an irregular fashion and there is a lack of adequate town-planning and design. The majority of the thoroughfares are too narrow for the large amount of motor traffic they have to bear. Most of the houses are stone-built and a considerable percentage are of the back-to-back type. This type is objectionable on account of the lack of space around the houses, and also because there is no through ventilation. It is contended, however, that they are warmer. I have not yet discovered a bath-room in any of the back-to-back houses which I have inspected, which comprise the majority of those parts of the town known as Eastborough and the Flatts. It is the lack of the ordinary domestic conveniences and the want of a plot of ground to each house where the children can play, that condemns them. This is really more important than through ventilation. The ordinary thrifty and clean housewife deserves better accommodation than that which she endeavours, in so many instances, to make good with at the present.

The geological and other aspects have been dealt with fully by my predecessor, Dr. Halliwell, and can be referred to in his reports for 1918 and 1919.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Water.—The Dewsbury and Heckmondwike Waterworks Board is the water authority. The supply is upland surface water and the gathering ground is entirely moorland. The surface soil is peaty; under the peat is millstone grit and shales of the Carboniferous series.

There are seven HIGH SERVICE RESERVOIRS with a total of 722 million gallons.

There are two LOW SERVICE RESERVOIRS with a total of 3½ million gallons.

The average supply per head of the population per diem for Domestic and Sanitary purposes is 27 gallons.

The result of chemical and bacteriological analyses show the water to be of a very high degree of purity; but it is exceedingly soft. Owing to the probable effect such a water would have upon lead pipes, lime is added artificially to the amount of 1 grain to the gallon of water. No cases of lead poisoning have been traced to this source in 1920.

Rivers and Streams.—The river Calder runs through the Borough; running into it are one or two small becks. Although much polluted by mill waste and dyes, no complaints of nuisance have been received during the year. Below the sewage farm the river is polluted by effluent from the sewage farm. The farm is outside the Borough Boundaries.

Drainage and Sewerage.—Practically the whole of the old Borough of Dewsbury is on the water carriage system. The areas at present containing the largest proportion of privy middens are the Soothills and Thornhill. Particularly in the latter, this is due to the rural nature of the district. The houses being more or less isolated and no sewers having been laid.

The following figures give the actual numbers of the different types of closet accommodation in the whole Borough.

For the five years 1915-1920 the following figures give the number of conversions done in the various wards. These five years were very difficult ones. Work was hampered by lack of labour and materials.

		Dewsbury	Ravensthorpe	Earlsheaton	Thornhill	Total
1915	Midden Privies	28	414	935	1178	2555
	Pail Closets ...	27	131	6	11	175
	Fresh Water Closets	5565	631	971	1221	8388
	Waste Water Closets	4	17		52	73
		5624	1193	1912	2462	11191
End of 1920	Midden Privies	24	382	843	1125	2374
	Pail Closets ...	27	112	6	11	156
	Fresh Water Closets					8569
	Waste Water Closets	4	17		52	73
						11172

Privy-Conversion is at the present time a somewhat expensive undertaking and the most frequent plea put forward is that the owner is unable to do the work owing to lack of capital.

The Health Committee have taken a lenient view of the genuine cases and have afforded extensions of time. It is to be hoped that as labour costs and prices fall, more of the objectionable privy-middens will be abolished. The doctrine that all excreta should be removed from living premises as quickly as possible is too obvious to require any confirmatory arguments.

Scavenging.—The scavenging of the Borough is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor's Department. I am, however, indebted to my Sanitary Inspectors for the following figures.

	Dewsbury	Ravensthorpe	Earlsheaton	Thornhill	TOTAL
Number of Ashpits	1650	300	365	574	2889
," Ashbins	2487	270	504	736	3997
," Privy					
Middens	24	382	843	1125	2374

186 moveable ashbins were substituted in lieu of ashpits in 1920.

Collection, etc., of Household and other Refuse.—There is a daily collection of Trade Refuse from the business parts of the town. The refuse is removed in open carts covered over by tarpaulin sheets.

	Ashbins.	Ashpits.	Privies
Methods of Emptying	Direct into Carts	Emptied by heavers on to yard, etc., and then deposited in carts	Same
Frequency of Emptying	Usually once weekly	<i>Summer</i> : once weekly <i>Winter</i> : once in two weeks	Same
Disposal	From Old Borough—removed to Destructor and Tips From added areas—removed to Tips		By Rail to farmers, and also to local farmers

The Tips are situated at Chickenley, Leeds Road, Savile Town, Thornhill Lees, Conyer's Colliery, Staincliffe Road, Edge Lane, Briestfield. These tips are not infrequently a cause of nuisance and complaint. Paper is blown about; combustion in the tips occurs leading to noxious fumes, and rats infest them. The method of refuse disposal by tipping is neither economical nor sound from the health standpoint.

It will be observed that in the emptying of ashpits and privy middens, the material is thrown from the pit on to the adjoining ground; in many cases an unpaved surface. The structure of these ashpits and middens necessitates this being done, and particularly in wet weather, the soiling of the yard must be very considerable. The feet of the occupants of houses using the ashpits and middens become soiled and the filth is carried into their houses. The usual place for the baby and toddlers is on the floor, and the explanation of diarrhoea and ill health does not seem far to seek in consequence.

In dry windy weather the dust is blown about and scattered over areas which may have proper dustbins and W.C.'s. In this way these sanitary improvements are discounted to some degree. When all the privies are converted throughout the Borough, then it will be reasonable to expect the Infantile Mortality and the General Mortality rates to fall below the level they maintain at the present time.

Hospital Accommodation.

	Males	Females	Children	Total
The Dewsbury & District Infirmary	26	17	14	57
The Staincliffe Poor Law Institution			300	300
Dewsbury & Heckmondwike Joint Isolation Hospital				
Fever	72		30	102
Small Pox	40		10	50
Whitiey Grange Hospital for Consumption	8	8		16

Sanitary Inspection of District.

During 1920, I have, in company with one or other of the Sanitary Inspectors made the following general inspections.

Housing	...	...	...	All Districts
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	All Districts
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops				All Districts
Bakehouses	...	...	Dewsbury	Old Borough
Offensive Trades	...	...		All Districts

Registered or Licensed Premises in Borough of Dewsbury, 1920.

		Dewsbury	Ravensthorpe	Soothill Nether	Soothill Upper	Thornhill	Total	Number of Visits Paid
Bakehouses	...	22	8	7	1	3	41	65
Slaughter-houses	..	15	2	3	3	8	31	844
Common lodging-houses	..	4					4	4
Cowsheds	...	6	3	4	5	42	60	65
Dairies and Milkshops	..	9	1	2	4	8	24	35
Tripe boiling premises	...	4		1	1	1	7	25
Size boiling premises	...	1					1	2
Fell mongering premises	...	1					1	3
Soap making	...	..	1				1	2
Bone boiling, Fat extracting, etc.	..				1		1	12

It will be noted that the number of visits paid by the Food Inspector to slaughter-houses is very considerably higher than those paid to other registered or licensed premises.

I am indebted to Mr. James Thackray, your senior Sanitary Inspector for the following portion of this section of the report.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1920.

	Dewsbury (old area)	Ravensthorpe	Soothil Nether	Soothil Upper	Thornhill	Totals
Number of Inspections of Houses and other Premises	3815	1004	681	524	821	6845
Number of Re-Inspections of Houses and other Premises	5723	1506	1021	786	1231	10267
Notices issued for Sanitary Amendments including 26 Statutory Notices	815	464	176	192	353	2000

NOTICES SERVED.

To abolish Defective Privies	...	...	62	35	87	67	251
,, Remove Foul Brickwork and Soil from Privies	..		53	19	68	24	164
,, Provide Water Closets	...	...	56	70	44	83	330
,, „ Light and Ventilation to Water Closets	57	73	41	78	76	325	
,, „ Screen Wall to Water Closets	...	1	1	2			4
,, „ Spouting to Water Closets	...	1	1				2
,, Cleanse Floor and Seat to Water Closets	...	5		1			6
,, Linewash Walls and Tops to Water Cloths	...	23				1	24
,, Repair Flushing Apparatus to Water Closets	...	22	3	1			26
.. Provide Ventilation Pipe to Water Closets	...	4	15	1	2	1	23
.. Cleanse and Repair Water Closets	...	144	14	4		8	170
,, Abolish Defective Trough Water Closets	...	39			1	5	45
,, „ Ashpits	...		31	5	19	8	63
,, Remove Foul Brickwork and Soil from Ashpits	..		24	5	18	5	52
,, Provide Proper Ashpits	...	...	14	9	25	3	51
,, „ Fastenings to Doors of Ashpits	...	10	8	2			20
,, „ Spouting to Ashpits	...				1		1
,, Remove Ashpit Door from Side of Street	...	1					1
,, Pave Surface in front of Ashpits	...		13			25	38
.. Provide Doors and Coverings to Ashpits	...	7	10		2	22	41
.. Repair Ashpits	...	23	2	7	2	22	56
,, „ Privies	...				16		16
,, Disconnect House Sink Waste Pipe from Drains			1			1	2
,, „ Fall Spout from Drain	...	8	11	3	4	5	31
,, Provide Trapped Gullies to Untrapped Drains	...	9	34	1	1	10	55
,, „ Dishstone with Loose Grate	...	7	16	1	1	13	38
,, Properly Fix Dishstones to Gullies	...	4	41	3	1	15	64
,, Make Sink Waste Pipe to Discharge on top of Dishstone	...	6			2	12	20
.. Repair Sink Waste Pipe	...	37	4	6	7	12	66
.. Fix S trap in Sink Waste Pipe	...	40	40	24	10	47	191
.. Remove Gullies and Drains from Inside Houses							
,, Slaughter Houses, etc.	..	2	4			11	17
,, „ Soil Pipe from Inside Houses	..	3					3
,, „ Defective Stone Drain	..	2	1				3
,, Provide New Sanitary Pipe Drain	..	9	26	1	2	4	42
,, „ Hopper Heads to Sink Waste Pipes	..	1	1			1	3
,, Cleanse and Repair Drain	...	94	17	18	6	21	156
,, Provide Eave and Fall Spouts	...	7	13	2	1	22	45
,, Repair Defective Spouts	...	50	20	3	6	11	90
.. Provide Inspection Chamber to Drain	...	5	6	2		2	15
,, „ New Sink Stones	..	1	15	1		14	31
,, Repair Sink Stones	...	2				3	5
.. Provide Sufficient Water Supply to Houses	...		2				2
.. Remove Water from Cellars	...	5		2	2	2	11
.. Repair Defective Roofs to Houses	...	18	29		2	9	58
,, „ Walls, Floors and Ceilings of Cellar, Kitchen and Bedrooms	..	14	13	2	2	2	33
,, Remove Boards around Sink	...	17	68	2	13	16	116
,, Cement Walls around Sink	...	17	68	1	13	16	115
,, Use means to Obviate Damp Walls	...	9	2	3	2	3	19
,, Provide or Make Windows to Open in Houses	...	5	50	1	4	1	61
,, „ Cords to Window Sashes	...	6	5			1	12
,, Cleanse and Linewash Ceilings, Walls, Floors, and Staircases to Houses	...	2		1			3
,, Pave or Asphalt Yards and Passage-Ways to Houses	...	2	3	6	19	9	39
.. Repair Pavement	...	7	1	2			10
.. Remove Refuse from Unoccupied Houses	...	1					1

NOTICES SERVED.

	Dewsbury (Old area)	Ravensthorpe	Soothill Nether	Soothill Upper	Thornhill	Total
To Fasten up Doors and Windows to Unoccupied Houses	1					1
,, Repair Chimney Stacks	5	3				8
,, Cleanse the Surface of the Yard	7	15				22
,, Provide New Grates to Cellar Areas and Coal Shoots	1	1			3	5
,, Fill in Cellar with Good Sanitary Material ...	1					1
,, Use means to prevent Water Flowing into Cellar					1	1
,, Cleanse and Limewash Walls, Tops, Passage-Ways and Workrooms ...	9	2		1	12	
,, Cleanse and Limewash Water Closets at Workroom	4			1	5	
,, Lay Baits and Poisons for Rats	4					4
,, Repair Water Closets at Workroom	5					5
,, Provide more efficient Light and Ventilation to Workroom	4					4
,, Provide Ventilated Intervening Space to Water Closets	14			3	17	
,, Repair Defective Roofs of Workshops				1	1	
,, Provide Additional and Separate Water Closet Accommodation	2	4				6
,, Prevent Dust been Blown on to the Public Street and Houses	1					1
,, Prevent the Escape of Noxious Fumes & Vapours	1					1
,, Provide Doors and Fasteners to Water Closets ...	21	21		5	47	
,, Remove Water Closets to a more suitable position	4		4	2	10	
,, Provide Earth or Pail Closets	1	2				3
,, Repair or Provide Galvanized Iron Receptacles	50	63	24	8	41	186
,, Abolish Defective Urinal	1					1
,, Provide New Urinal	1					2
,, Repair Urinal	3					4
,, Provide Water Supply to Urinal	3					3
,, Remove Manure	5	6	4	1	2	18
,, Refuse	7					7
,, Provide Proper Manure Pit				1	2	3
,, Remove Stagnant Water	2	1				3
,, „ Animals Improperly kept	5					5
,, „ Fowl-Houses, Rabbit-Hutches, Pigeon-Cotes, etc....	2					2
,, Fish Tubs	5					5
,, Discontinue Depositing Offensive Matter on Streets or in Street Gullies	2					2
,, Prevent Smoke Nuisance	28	10	4	13	55	
,, Abolish Cesspool				1	1	
,, Limewash Walls and Tops of Slaughter-Houses	58	11	15	12	32	128
,, „ „ „ Cow Sheds ...	14	6	8	10	84	122
,, „ „ „ Premises (Offensive Trades)...	2		3			5
,, Repair Floor and Roof of Slaughter House ...		1				1
,, Provide more Light & Ventilation to Cow Sheds				1	1	
Totals ...	1056	1029	325	562	802	3774

Of the 251 Privies noticed, 83 have been converted to Water Closets. The remainder are pending or in hand for ultimate conversion.

A large number of the other notices have been complied with.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories	27	6	
(Including Factory Laundries)			
Workshops	150	30	
(Including Workshop Laundries)			
Workplaces		86 Verbal Notices	
(Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)			
Total	177	36 + 86 = 122	

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—*</i>		
Want of cleanliness	12	12
Want of ventilation	4	4
Overcrowding		
Want of drainage of floors		
Other nuisances	186	186
Sanitary accommodation		
insufficient	26	26
unsuitable or defective	32	32
not separate for sexes		
Total	260	260

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

4.—Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Mostly Rag Sorting.	
Total number of Workshops on Register	340

5.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 133, 1901) ...	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5, 1901) ...	Notified by H.M. Inspector ... 19
	Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...
Other defects found by Inspectors	17
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year ...	2

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

Inspections have been made and defects found to exist, which necessitated the service of notices as under:—

	Dewsbury (Old area)	Ravensthorpe	Soothill Nether.	Soothill Upper.	Thornhill.	Total.
Inspections	123	21	6	4	23	177
Notices served	76	21	10	3	12	122
To abolish Defective Privies			2	1		3
„ Remove Foul Brickwork and Soil from Privies...			2			2
„ Provide Water Closets...	39		2	1	2	44
„ „ Light and Ventilation to Water Closets	41	6	3	1	2	53
„ „ Screen Wall to Water Closets ...		2	1			3
„ Limewash Walls etc. of Water Closet ...	4				1	5
„ Abolish Defective Trough Water Closets ...	22					22
„ Provide Trapped Gullies to Untrapped Drains ...	1					1
„ „ Dishstone with Loose Grate ...	1					1
„ Repair Sink Waste Pipes ...	1					1
„ Fix S trap in Sink Waste Pipes ...	2					2
„ Cleanse and Repair Drain ...	1					1
„ Repair Defective Spouts ...	2					2
„ Provide Inspection Chamber to Drain ...	4		1			5
„ Use Means to Obviate Damp Walls ...	1					1
„ Repair Pavement ...	1					1
„ Cleanse & Limewash Walls, Tops, etc, Workrooms	9		2		1	12
„ Repair Water Closets	12	1			1	14
„ Provide More Efficient Light and Ventilation to Workrooms ...	4					4
„ „ Ventilated Intervening Space to W.C.s...	14				3	17
„ Repair Roofs ...					1	1
„ Provide Additional Water Closets ...	2	2				4
„ Prevent Dust being Blown on to Houses & Streets	1					1
„ „ the Escape of Noxious Fumes & Vapours	1					1
„ Provide Doors and Fasteners to Water Closets ...	21	17		5	43	
„ Remove W.C.'s to a more Suitable Position ...	4		4	2	10	
„ Repair Pail Closets ...		2				2
„ „ or Provide Galvanized Iron Receptacles...	3					3
„ Remove Stagnant Water ...		1				1
Totals	191	31	17	3	18	260

(Included in General Summary).

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

Two Samples of Rag Flock from separate firms have been obtained and in both cases, confirmed with the Act. The percentage of Chlorine was 19.8 in one case ; 19.85 in the other.

CANAL BOATS.

Wharves have been periodically visited and boats inspected.

No case of sickness or overcrowding was found to exist and the other regulations were complied with.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

86 Observations of smoke emissions from mill chimneys have been made and 55 notices were issued to various firms where dense black smoke was excessively emitted.

24 of these were statutory notices, and several were acknowledged and improvements ensued. In one instance a chimney stack has been extended 42 feet.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Enquiries have been made at premises when inspections are in progress. In all cases where necessary, assistance has been rendered, and poison baits distributed.

OUTWORKERS (FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901)

No returns have been received from any firm or firms during the year.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC. ACT.

144 Statutory Notices have been issued to various owners asking for Sanitary Amendments, etc. in connection with 178 houses.

The principal defects were :—

Offensive privies and ash pits.

Defective sinks and sink-pipes.

Defective windows and walls.

Want of light and proper ventilation.

Foul woodwork in houses.

Defective pavement.

Defective spouts.
Unpaved yards.
Defective drainage.
Defective ceilings, etc.

A few owners have already carried out the desired requirements and others are making arrangements for the work to be carried out.

Several notices were not issued until the last month of the year, and already (early 1921) many of these are in progress of being carried out.

PROSECUTIONS.

Proceedings were instituted against one owner for failing to replace defective worn out galvanized iron receptacles to dwelling houses for the reception of ashes and refuse therefrom.

The result was that defendant was ordered to provide the necessary receptacles within 14 days and pay costs of hearing the case.

OVERCROWDING.

The shortage of houses and inability for closures has tended against any serious measures been taken.

JAMES THACKRAY,

Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Condition of the Schools in the Borough.

As School Medical Officer, this has been dealt with by me in my Annual Report to the Education Committee of the Local Authority.

A complete inspection of the Schools has been carried out during the year by myself and the Sanitary Inspectors.

The following is a summary of the Sanitary Arrangements found in the several Schools.

SCHOOL	Pedestal W.C. with separate flushes.	Trough Closet Seats.		Urinal with sparge pipes	Urinals without sparate pipes	Pail Closets
		Automatic Flush each	One Auto- matic Flush			
Parish C. of E.	2	5			1	
Dewsbury Moor C. of E.	1	2	6		1	
St. Paulinus R.C.	1		12		2	
Victoria C.S.	1		17	2		
West Town C. of E.			9		2	
Dewsbury Moor C.	4	16			2	
Shaw Cross C.		6		2		
Earlsheaton C. of E.	8				2	
Earlsheaton C.	3	11		2		
Chickenley Lane C.	12			2		
Batley Carr C.	20			2		
St. Josephs R.C.	10				2	
Eastborough C.			14	1	1	
Savile Town C. of E.		8			2	
Thornhill Lees C. of E.	14				1	
" " Memorial	7					
Lees Moor C. of E.	5				1	
Walker's Endowed C.	5				1	
Thornhill Edge C. of E.			2	1		
Whitley C. of E.					2	
Thornhill C. of E.	10				2	
Technical School	10			3		
Ravensthorpe C. of E.		18			2	

Vital Statistics.

The estimated population of Dewsbury was 55,178. The Registrar General's figure supplied for the purpose of statistics was 55,080.

Births.

The number of births registered in 1920 were 1,271. The birth rate was equal to a rate of 23.07 per 1,000, compared with 19.0 in 1919. The number of births was largest during the first six months of the year.

The excess of births over deaths during the year was 487 as compared with 126 in 1919.

The birth rates in the Municipal Wards were as follows:—

DEWSBURY							Thornhill		Transfers	
St. John's East	St. John's West	Trinity N.	Trinity S.	All Saints	Ravens-thorpe	Earls-heaton	North	South	Inward	Outward
189	65	145	184	91	142	189	159	91	16	26
Birth Rate	24.03		20.80	22.70		21.04				
Birth Rate (1919)	19.9		17.9	17.9		18.7				

The birth and death rates for the various areas have been calculated upon the following estimated populations.

Dewsbury Old Borough	...	28,045	55,080
Ravensthorpe	...	6,830	
Earlsheaton...	...	8,323	
Thornhill	...	11,882	

Of the 1,271 births, 639 were males and 632 females. The number of illegitimate births recorded was 80 as compared with 88 in 1919. The proportion of illegitimate births to every 1,000 births registered was 63. The illegitimate birth rate was 1.45.

The birth rate in England and Wales was 25.4 and of the 96 Great Towns (including London) 26.2.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in 1920 was 784, of whom 409 were males and 375 females.

The death rate was equal to a rate of 14.23 per 1,000 population. The rate for 1919 was 17.5.

The death rate in the Municipal Wards was:—

DEWSBURY					Thornhill			
St. John's East	St. John's West	Trinity North	Trinity South	All Saints	Ravens- thorpe	Earls- heaton	North	South
104	45	114	113	67	93	110	82	56
Death Rate		15.79			13.61	13.21	11.61	

For 1919 the death rates were Dewsbury 19.1, Ravensthorpe 16.7, Earlsheaton 17.7, Thornhill 14.2. The death rate in England and Wales for 1920 was 12.4, and for the 96 Great Towns including London (census populations exceeding 50,000) 12.5. 13 illegitimate infants under 1 year died.

The illegitimate Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate births was 162.5.

Infantile Mortality.

Month.	Births.	Deaths.	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births.	General Birth Rate.	General Death Rate.
January	...	121	13	107	25.2
February	..	96	13*	125	21.7
March	..	119	15	124	25.3
April	...	99	20	202	22.2
May	..	104	9	86	22.4
June	...	106	8	75	24.0
July	...	99	10	101	21.9
August	...	111	7	63	24.1
September	...	99	19	191	22.5
October	...	88	8	90	18.7
November	...	119	12	100	26.2
December	..	94	6	64	20.4
Totals ..	1255	140	111.5	22.9	14.3

*A male child was born and died in a Leeds Maternity Home.

16 Dewsbury babies born outside the area are not included in the above.

26 babies born in Dewsbury but resident outside the area are not included in the above.

Making allowances for these births the **Corrected Infantile Mortality for 1920 is 110.15.**

The 1919 rate was 110.7 per 1,000 births.

The Infantile Mortality for England and Wales was 80, and for the 96 Great Towns (including London) 85.

Infantile Mortality for the Wards.

	Nett Births.	Nett Deaths.	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births.
Dewsbury Old Borough...	690	79	114.4
Ravensthorpe	... 142	19	133.8
Earlsheaton	... 189	15	79.4
Thornhill ...	... 250	27	108.0
	—	—	—
	1271	140	110.15
	—	—	—

For 1919 the Infantile Mortality in the various Wards was:— Old Borough 135; Ravensthorpe 122; Earlsheaton 46; Thornhill 84.

Dewsbury County Borough.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1920.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes	{ Certified Uncertified											
Small-pox										
Chicken-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever										
Whooping Cough										
Other Tuberculous Diseases										
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)										
Convulsions	3	1								
Influenza										
Bronchitis	1		1	1	3	6	3	7	5	24
Pneumonia (all forms)						1	1	2	4	8
Diarrhoea		1			1	2	2	2	3	10
Enteritis						3	1	2	1	7
Gastritis						2				2
Syphilis				1	1	1				3
Rickets										
Suffocation, overlying	1				1	1				2
Injury at Birth										
Atelectasis	1				1					1
Congenital Malformations										
Premature Birth	...	19	5	2	3	29	1					30
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	18		1	2	1	22	3					26
Spina Bifida	...	2	1			3		1				4
Ecyema			1		1					1
Jaundice	...	1					1	1				2
Hæmorrhage of Umbilicus	...			1			1					1
Want of Assistance at Birth	...	1					1					1
Totals	...		47	10	7	5	69	24	12	19	16	140

Ages at Death (under 1 year).

Month.	Under 4 weeks.	1 month— 3 months.	3 months— 6 months.	6 months— 9 months.	9 months— 12 months.
January ..	4	3	3	2	3
February ...	8	2	1	1	1
March ..	4	5	4		2
April ..	9	5		2	4
May ..	1	1	1		4
June ..	6			1	1
July ...	7		1	1	1
August ..	2	2	2	1	
September ...	10	3	1	5	
October ...	3	1		1	3
November ...	6	2	2	1	1
December ...	5		1		
Totals ...	65	24	16	15	20

Causes of Death.—Prematurity 39; Bronchitis 25; Debility 16; Diarrhœa 16; Convulsions 12; Whooping Cough 6; Broncho-Pneumonia 6; Gastritis 3; Congenital Syphilis 3; Spina Bifida 2; Overlaying 2; Meningitis, Tuberculosis, Ecyema, Umbilical Hernia, Jaundice, Abnormality, Atelectasis, Collapse of Bowel, Influenza, and Found Drowned—1 each.

Prematurity caused 28% of the total Infantile deaths, Bronchitis 17.8%, Debility and Diarrhœa 11.4% each.

Maternal Mortality.—There were 5 maternal deaths directly due to accidents of parturition, and 3 due to puerperal fever.

This gives a maternal mortality per 1,000 births of 6.1.

FOOD.

The considerable part of Dewsbury's milk supply is derived from areas outside the Borough. Although not of a very high standard of quality, out of 79 samples taken for analysis 4 only were found to be below the legal standard.

During the year I made an inspection of all the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops in the Borough. There are only one or two Dairies and Cowsheds, but Milkshops. I was not impressed with the general cleanliness or suitability of the majority of the latter. Too often the milk was stored in and retailed from the kitchen and living-room, and the conveniences for thorough washing of milk cans or churns were quite inadequate in many cases.

To Mr. Hallilay, the Veterinary Inspector to the Corporation, I am indebted for the following report upon the condition of the milch cows and cow-sheds in the Borough.

"During the last 12 months I have visited all the Milk Cows in the County Borough of Dewsbury at least twice—in many cases three or four times—and have not had occasion to notify any case as unfit to supply milk for human consumption at any inspection. I have not found any case of diseased udders—taking the class of cows as a whole I consider them to be a good, healthy, sound lot which are kept in the Borough. Owing to the price of Milk Cows still being very high and far in advance of pre-war time, in fact, about three times the amount. I think the purchasers are particularly careful in choosing them and also knowing they are inspected regularly. No doubt there are some of the cows which have tubercular troubles in a latent form but, they are not allowed by their owners to get into an advanced condition, that is, if a cow is shewing signs of not doing well in condition they are quickly disposed of. There are about 40 men in the Borough who keep cows for milking purposes, and in all about 330. Sometimes an owner may have a few more than at other times, and several have given up and others reduced their stock considerably owing to labour and food prices, etc.; however, I consider that there are a good lot of cows in the district."

Yours respectfully,
F. HALLILAY.

Dec. 22nd, 1920.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SHOPS ORDERS.

The number of Cowkeepers on the Register in 1919 was 65; 1 was added in 1920.

The number of Cowsheds in 1919 was 79 and 1 was added in 1920. Twenty of these however are not in use.

The approximate number of Cows provided for in 1920 was 320. Dairymen and Milk Purveyors on the Register number 85.

Milk and Cream Regulations 1912 and 1917.

(1). Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

	(a)	(b)
Milk	80	0
Cream	0	0

(2). Cream sold as Preserved Cream None.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.—The work done under this order is detailed under the Maternity and Child Welfare Section. In all cases the milk was obtained by an order which was handed to the recipient at the Welfare Centre and signed by the Medical Officer of Health. This order was given to the milkman. A facsimile of the form of order is given below:—

COUNTY BOROUGH OF DEWSBURY.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

To.....

.....

Please supply.....pints of milk from.....to.....
to Mrs.....of.....
for the use of herself—her children.

H.V. Initials..... Signed.....

Date.....

Accounts must be submitted Monthly, addressed to the Medical Officer of Health, Town Hall, Dewsbury.

MEAT.

During 1920 I made an inspection of all the Slaughter Houses in the Borough, and presented a special report to the Health Committee upon the matter. This was undertaken on account of the cessation of meat control and the consequent re-opening of Slaughter Houses which had been shut up, or used for other purposes. All the Licensed Slaughter House Owners and occupiers were requested to apply to the Local Authority for a renewal of their licenses, and the Health Committee propose only to grant licenses to those owners or occupiers who carry out the repairs or improvements which are considered reasonable and necessary.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES IN USE IN DEWSBURY.

	1914	1920
Registered	3	3
Licensed	36	38

It is very difficult for the inspector to keep a close watch upon the slaughtering that takes place in the various Slaughter Houses. They are scattered throughout the Borough, and as the butchers all slaughter on the same day, it is obviously impossible to keep an eye upon them all. In spite of this the general condition of the meat offered for sale in the retail shops is above the average, particularly for industrial towns.

The following surrenders of Unsound Meat, etc., were 10 Beast's Carcasses and all internal organs.

4	Pieces of Beef.	5	Pig's carcasses.
2	Beast's heads.	2	Pig's lungs.
39	Beast's lungs.	2	Pig's heads.
15	Beast's livers.	5	Pig's livers.
3	Beast's spleens.	7	Pig's mesenteries.
6	Beast's mesenteries.	4	Pig's plucks.
5	Beast's udders.	1	Pig's heart.
20	Beast's bellies (tripe).	1	Pig's spleen.

The causes for surrender were mainly, Generalised Tuberculosis, Pleurisy, Abscesses, Inflammation, Necrosis.

The following surrenders were made on account of Tuberculosis :—

10 carcases, Beasts. 5 carcases, Pigs.

42 parts including viscera.

The total weight of the surrenders was 7,832 lbs.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL MARKETS.

The markets have been frequently inspected by the Inspectors, and there is always at least one on duty all day during market days.

The following is a summary of the work carried out. Ten surrenders of unsound food have been made, comprising :

- 505 Rabbits.
- 150 stone of Haddock.
- 60 lbs. of Pears.
- 18 lbs. of Tinned Beef.
- 44 lbs. of Tinned Eggs.
- 26½ cwt. of Potatoes.
- 40 bags of Mussels.

These substances were removed and destroyed. No prosecutions have been necessary.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.—Summary of Work Done.—138 samples have been obtained and submitted to the Public Analyst as follows :—

			Total No. Analysed.	No. of Legal Samples.	No. of Informal Samples.	RESULTS.					
						Genuine Samples.		Adulterated Samples.		Doubtful Samples.	
				Legal	Informal		Legal	Informal		Legal	Informal
Milk	...	..	79	79	75			4			
Flour	...	..	21	21		21					
Baking Powder	...	..	8	8		8					
Bun Flour	...	..	3	3		3					
Pudding Powder	...	..	3	3		3					
Coffee	...	..	6	6		6					
Pepper	...	..	4	4		4					
Custard Powder	...	..	2	2		2					
Cake Flour	...	..	1	1		1					
Separated Milk	..	..	1	1	1						
Irish Whiskey	...	..	1		1		1				
Self-Raising Flour	..	..	3		3		3				
Lard	...	..	5		5		5				
Ground Rice	...	..	1		1		1				
Total	...	...	138	80	58	76	58	4			

One genuine sample of milk (286) was reported to be of poor quality, being just on the border line both for fat, and solids not fat. The vendor appeared before the Committee and was cautioned.

Of the 4 adulterated samples of milk—two (207, 244) contained 96 per cent. and 93 per cent. respectively of the minimum amount of fat. Letters were sent to vendors re these.

The remaining two (183, 205) contained 2.6 per cent. and 1.6 per cent. respectively of added water. In one case a letter was sent to vendor.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Month	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Enteric	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever	Malaria
Jan. ...	7 (6)	4 (4)	6	1		1		
Feb. ...	9 (7)	2 (1)	2	2		1	2	
Mar. ...	8 (7)	9 (6)		2		1		
Apr. ..	12 (8)	4 (4)	13	1	1 (1)	1		
May .	5 (4)	6 (6)	3	3		1		
June ...	3 (2)	7 (6)	2*	4		1		
July ...	3 (3)	2 (2)	2	1		1		4
Aug. .	9 (7)	2 (2)	1	1				
Sept. ...	5 (5)	5 (5)	2	2				
Oct. ...	10 (8)	2 (2)			1 (1)			1
Nov. ...	10 (9)	4 (4)	1	2			1	
Dec. ...	55(51)	3 (3)	1	2				1
	136 (117)	50(45)	33	21	2 (2)	7	3	6

* One case of Influenzal Pneumonia was notified—viz :- in June. The figures in brackets give the number of cases admitted to the Dewsbury Joint Board Isolation Hospital. 86% of the Scarlet Fever cases, and 90% of the Diphtheria cases were removed, together with both Enteric Fever cases.

The case incidence rate and death rate per 1,000 of the total population was :—

	Incidence Rate.	Death Rate.
Scarlet Fever	2.4	0.054
Diphtheria	0.9	0.091
Pneumonia	0.6	0.163
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0.4	0.000
Enteric Fever	0.035	0.000
Erysipelas	0.12	0.000
Whooping Cough	not notifiable	0.091 5 deaths from Whooping Cough
Measles	„	0.21 12 „ „ Measles
Diarrhoea & Enteritis	„	0.40 22 „ „ Diarrhoea

The total case incidence per 1,000 of the population was 4.7 and the death rate 0.308.

Distribution of Cases in the Borough.

	Dewsbury (Old Borough)	Ravensthorpe	Earlsheaton	Thornhill	Totals
Scarlet Fever	30	13	9	84	136
Diphtheria	29	6	5	10	50
Pneumonia	21	3	1	8	33
Ophthalmia	14	2		5	21
Enteric Fever	2				2
Erysipelas	5	2			7
Puerperal Fever	2		1		3
Malaria	2	1		3	6
	105	27	16	110	258

Age Incidence of Cases.

	Under 5 yrs.	5—12		13—20		21—30		31—40		Over 40		Totals	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet Fever	...	10	15	46	48	5	6	4	1	1		65	71
Diphtheria	...	4	6	13	14	2	8	1	1		1	20	30
Pneumonia	...	3	1	4		3	1	7	1	2	1	5	9
Enteric Fever	...					1				1			2
Erysipelas	...					1		1		2	1	2	6
Puerperal Fever	...						1						3
Malaria	...							3	2	1		6	

The age group 5—12 years suffered the greatest incidence as regards Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

SCARLET FEVER.

Number of Notifications	...	136
of these 9 cases were found ultimately not to be S. F.		
Number of Deaths	...	3
Death-rate per 1,000 population	0.05	
Number of Notifications, 1919		109

By far the largest number of notifications were received in December, and of the 55 then received, 51 occurred in the Thornhill area. Practically all the cases occurred in school children attending Thornhill Lees Memorial and Thornhill Edge schools. A considerable distance separates these schools and schools in between were not attacked. The outbreak began at Memorial School on Nov. 29th, and was traced to a boy who was discovered at school in the peeling stage. No doctor had been consulted. The outbreak was about a fortnight later at Thornhill Edge, and no definite focus could be found. Although, undoubtedly the initial source of infection in one area, was due to school attendance, it appears that intercommunication between children of families, against advice, played a more important part. Particularly was this observed in the Thornhill Edge area. School Closure was not resorted to on this account, because, when the children were attending school, daily inspections could be carried out and a stricter watch kept on them. With the exception of three all cases in this outbreak were removed to Hospital. The type of the disease was very mild and no fatal cases occurred. Nine cases ultimately proved not to be Scarlet Fever.

Thorough house disinfection was carried out. The schools were also disinfected. Sulphur candles and Formalin Spray being used.

About this time a wave of food rashes passed over the town and there appears no doubt that, at the height of the epidemic, there was a tendency to call any rash Scarlet Fever, without enquiring very fully into the antecedents.

DIPHTHERIA.

Number of Notifications	...	50
Number of Deaths	...	5
Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.09	
Number of Notifications, 1919		51

The incidence has been evenly distributed over the whole year; the largest number of cases occurred in the spring and early summer months. I am confident that the rigorous supervision exercised by the School Medical Staff in the case of sore-noses and Impetigo, plays an important part in the prevention of more serious outbreaks. It is by no means an infrequent occurrence to find children attending schools with sore or cracked alae nasi and septum nasi, which onswabbing give positive results, in spite of the children being apparently quite well. A suggestive feature is that Impetigo is also most prevalent in the spring and early summer. The high winds, blowing street dust into the air may conceivably be the causative factor.

The type of the disease was on the whole mild, with an occasional severe case cropping up, having no relation as far as could be ascertained, with any previous similar case.

Routine swabbing of contacts is practised as far as possible.

Diphtheria antitoxin was supplied to medical practitioners in 30 cases.

PNEUMONIA.

Number of Notifications	...	33
Number of Deaths amongst		
Notified cases	...	9
Total deaths	...	20
Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.363	
Number of Notifications, 1919		77

The Public Health (Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, &c.) Regulations, 1918, came into operation on March 1st, 1919. Medical Practitioners are required to notify cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia or Acute Influenzal Pneumonia. The Local Authority are also empowered to provide medical or nursing assistance for needy patients.

The above figures give the numbers notified, of which only one was a case of Influenzal Pneumonia in a woman aged 64 years. This case died. The other eight deaths occurred as follows:—Male, 2 yrs.; Female, 59 yrs.; Male, 21 yrs.; Female, 29 yrs.; Female, 67 yrs.; Male, 7 yrs.; Male, 58 yrs.; Male, 18 yrs.

The Deaths from Broncho-Pneumonia numbered 29, whilst Bronchitis reached the high figure of 98.

The Death Rates for these Diseases are therefore:—

Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.363
Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.526
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1.779
Total non-Tubercular Respiratory Diseases				0.889

Bronchitis is the greatest cause of death in the Borough, Heart disease being second.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Number of Notifications	...	2
Number of Deaths	...	Nil
Death Rate	...	0.00
Number of Notifications, 1919		6

Only two cases of Enteric Fever occurred in the Borough. Special enquiry was made into both cases in order to ascertain the source of infection. In the first case—April—there was a history of having had ice-cream. This clue was followed up, but failed on arriving at Hull, where the milk came from. No reply was elicited from the Health Authority as to the condition of the dairy in Hull which consigned the milk to Dewsbury.

The second case occurred in October and a definite history of having purchased mussels from a stall in Leeds market was elicited. Unfortunately the name of the stall-holder could not be obtained. In this connection the special enquiry into the condition of mussels coming into the Borough, an account of which is given at the end of the report, will be of interest.

Both cases were removed to Hospital and both recovered

ERYSIPelas.—Number of notifications...	...	7
Number of deaths	...	Nil
Death rate per 1,000 population		0.00

Six of the seven cases occurred in women and in only one case was the patient under 30 years of age.

MALARIA.—Six cases of Malaria were notified ; in each case the patient was an ex soldier who had contracted the infection whilst on service.

ANTHRAX.—No notifications were received but two cases were heard of : both of these were in young men : one working in a woollen mill and the other an Electrician who had been carrying out wiring operations in a rag warehouse. In both cases the lesion was facial and both recovered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Lungs.	Other Forms.
Number of Notifications	... 72	20
Number of Deaths	... 37	14
Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.671	0.255
Case incidence	,, 1.3	0.4

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912.

Summary of Notifications during the period from 4th January, 1920—1st January, 1921.

TABLE I.

	Notifications on Form A										Notifications on Form B					Notifications on Form C			
	Number of Primary Notifications										Number of Primary Notifications					Number of Primary Notifications			
Age Periods	0 to 1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	over 65	Total Primary Notifications on Form A	Total Primary Notifications on Form B	Total Primary Notifications on Form C	Sanatoriums				
Pulmonary Males ...	1	2	3		1			5	13	3	4	1	40	48	2	2	1	24	
" Females...			3	3	4	4	6	3	4	2		29	31	1	1	1	14		
Non-Pulmonary Males		3	1			1		4		1		10	11	1	3	4	4	1	
Non-Pulmonary Females		1	2	2	2	1						6	6	1	1	1	1	1	

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

TABLE II.

	Lungs		Other Forms	
	M	F	M	F
Under School Age	3	2
School Age	1	1
Not Stated	1	
Housewives	8	
Millhands	5	2
Weaver		3
Rag Sorter		2
Labourer	3	
Boot Repairer	1	
Blanket Raiser		1
Slater	1	
Grocers' Assistant	1	
Clerk	1	1
Coal Miner	1	1
Engineer	1	1
Fish and Chip Shop Assistant	...			1
Warehouseman	1	
Shop Assistant	1	
Hairdresser	1	
	20	17	9	5
	37		14	

TABLE III.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Deaths per 1,000 living.

	1911		1912		1913		1914		1915		1916		1917		1918		1919		1920	
	M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F		M F	
	27	31	27	16	34	21	36	25	25	25	18	24	18	34	27	16	21	17	20	17
Pulmonary Tuberculosis																				
	1.08		0.8		1.02		1.13		0.93		0.8		0.9		0.9		0.71		0.67	
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	20	5	18	7	5	8	7	9	6	7	7	3	6	5	7	6	6	4	9	5
	0.5		0.46		0.24		0.29		0.24		0.1		0.2		0.27		0.19		0.25	

TABLE IV.

Percentage of Deaths of Pulmonary Tuberculosis to cases notified during the same period.

	Male	Female	Persons
1912	48 per cent.	35 per cent.	24 per cent.
1913	69 ,,	44 ,,	57 ,,
1914	47 ,,	36 ,,	48 ,,
1915	42 ,,	55 ,,	46 ,,
1916	34 ,,	46 ,,	42 ,,
1917	22 ,,	78 ,,	41 ,,
1918	28 ,,	48 ,,	33 ,,
1919	75 ,,	48 ,,	60 ,,
1920	47 ,,	56 ,,	51 ,,

The notifications of Tuberculosis other than Pulmonary were, 8 cases Tubercular meningitis ; Glands 4 ; Generalised 4 ; Bones 2 ; Peritoneum 1, and Skin 1.

There is reason to believe that the notifications of Tuberculosis do not give an accurate indication of the amount of Tubercular disease in the Borough. For some reason or other notification is postponed until the last moment. Several cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been notified only a few days before death ; others are not notified until in an advanced stage and bedridden ; whilst some are never notified and their existence is only discovered by the death certificate. It is difficult to see what action can be taken by Local Authorities to enforce early notification. The present methods of dealing with this problem are unfortunately inadequate. It is beside the point to enforce early notification of non-infective cases, whilst advanced cases are allowed to remain at home under practically no control whatever.

Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Up to September 1st, 1920, the treatment of Tuberculosis cases in Dewsbury was carried out by the West Riding C. C. under contract with the Local Authority. The lease of the County's tenancy of the Tuberculosis Clinic expired on August 30th, and the Health Committee decided to carry out the work themselves.

The M. O. H. was appointed Tuberculosis Officer and performs the clinical and administrative duties of the post. A whole-time Tuberculosis Nurse was also appointed as it was felt that home visiting and "contact" work was a highly important branch.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year, divided into two periods according as to which authority was in charge.

DISPENSARY WORK	8 months ending August 31st.	4 months ending Dec. 31st.	Total for 12 months.
New Patients	52	51	103
Visits of Patients under Observation	54	215	269
Visits of Patients under Treatment	1094	668	1762
	1100	934	2034
HOME VISITING	8 months ending August 31st.	4 months ending Dec. 31st.	Total for 12 months.
Homes of New Cases ..	36	165	201
„ „ Patients attending the Dispensary...	227	270	497
„ „ „ in Sanatoria	13	10	23
„ „ „ under Observation ..	35	23	58
	311	468	779

No contacts were examined up to the middle of the year, since that time 11 have come for examination of whom two were advised to undergo further treatment.

Contact work is an important item in Anti-Tuberculosis measures. Unfortunately it is sometimes difficult to make a patient's relatives see the advisability. On the whole, however, the response to the few invitations given has been encouraging.

Institutional Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Sanatorium etc.	Admissions			Discharges		
	Male	Female	Children	Male	Female	Children
Dean Head	14			14		
Morton Banks		7			9	
Whitley Grange	4	3	4		1	
Stanhope	1			1		
Eldwick						2
Staincliffe P. L. Institution	1	1		2	1	
	20	11	4	17	11	2

In September of 1920, Whitley Grange was opened as a Sanatorium for inhabitants of Dewsbury suffering from Advanced Tuberculosis. Sixteen beds were provided, eight for males and eight for females. The administrative and Clinical work was placed in the hands of the M. O. H., whose staff consists of four nurses and four domestics. In order to reduce expenses the number of beds subsidised by the Local Authority in Dean Head and Morton Banks Sanatoria, were cut down, so that at present only two beds are retained at Dean Head and none at Morton Banks. The Local Authority have 18 beds now available for Tuberculosis, in place of 13 formerly. It is anticipated that some economy will be effected in having a Sanatorium nearer headquarters and directly under the control of the Local Authority.

Cancer.—The deaths from Cancer (malignant disease) numbered 68, a number five less than in 1919. The deaths from Cancer since 1914 are as follows, per 1,000 of the population.

	Cases	Death Rate
1914	54	0.99
1915	66	1.24
1916	56	1.08
1917	59	1.13
1918	55	1.19
1919	73	1.38
1920	68	1.23

Deaths from Cancer in Municipal Wards.

		Male	Female	Total	Death Rate
Dewsbury	...	18	23	41	1.46
Ravensthorpe	...	2	2	4	0.58
Earlsheaton	...	5	7	12	1.44
Thornhill	...	8	3	11	0.92
		—	—	—	
		33	35	68	
		—	—	—	

The population of the Wards has been estimated upon the provisional figure supplied for Dewsbury as a whole by the Registrar-General, viz:—55,080.

The Deaths from Cancer occurred at the following ages:—

Age Periods		Males	Females	Total
5 years to 15 years	...		1	1
25 , , 35 years	...	1	1	2
35 , , 45 years	...	2	4	6
45 , , 55 years	...	6	6	12
55 , , 65 years	...	12	11	23
65 , , 75 years	...	7	6	13
Over 75 years	...	5	6	11

DISINFECTING STATION.

2569 articles were disinfected, steam being used in all instances. 151 articles were voluntarily destroyed.

In addition, 314 rooms in private houses have been disinfected; 4 school departments and 13 class rooms. A factory canteen and the Infirmary Wards were also disinfected.

Early in the year the steam disinfector at the Corporation Depot, George Street, broke down, and for three months the steam disinfector at the Dewsbury Joint Isolation Hospital was made use of owing to the kindness of the Chairman and Members of the Joint Hospital Board. In the meantime the disinfector at the Cemetery and the disinfector at Shaw Cross were being repaired after a long period of disuse. These are now in complete running order and are working. The

station at Shaw Cross is well-planned and has ample out-bathing accommodation. Unfortunately it is situated on one of the outskirts of the Borough and cannot conveniently serve the central parts of the town. The Cemetery disinfector is of an older type and has no outbathing accommodation. When the central station at the Depot, George Street, is once more in working order, there will be three disinfecting stations available and two outbathing departments.

BACTERIOLOGICAL REPORT, 1920.

During the year the following examinations were carried out for the Dewsbury Corporation, at the Laboratory of the West Riding County Council at Wakefield.

For the Detection of Spirochaetes	...	0
For the Detection of Gonococci	...	43
For the Wasserman Reaction	...	129
Swabs for B. Diphtheriae	...	372
Sputum for Tubercl Bacillus	...	224
Blood Serum for Widal	...	14
Material for Bac. Anthracis	...	8
Swabs	...	3
Shaving Brushes	...	3
Hair for Ringworm Parasite	...	406
Other Examinations	...	36
Inoculations performed	...	26
(1) Sputum for Tubercl Bacillus	...	17
(2) Urine for Tubercl Bacillus	...	4
(3) Pus for Tubercl Bacillus	...	3
(4) Pleural Fluid for Tubercl Bacillus	...	1
(5) Cerebro-Spinal Fluid for Tubercl Bacillus	...	1

Venereal Diseases.

Return relating to all persons who were treated at the Treatment Centre at Dewsbury during the year ended the 31st December, 1920.

	Syphilis		Soft Chancre		Gonorrhœa		Conditions other than Venereal		TOTAL	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1. Number of persons who, on the 1st Jan., 1920, were under treatment for :—	156	70	1		86	6	19	11	262	87
2. Number of persons dealt with during the year at or in connection with the out-patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from :—										
Syphilis only	60	36							60	36
Soft Chancre only										
Gonorrhœa only					89	7			89	7
Syphilis and Soft Chancre										
Syphilis and Gonorrhœa										
Gonorrhœa and Soft Chancre... ...										
Syphilis, Soft Chancre and Gonorrhœa										
Conditions other than Venereal							30	5	30	5
TOTAL—Item 2 ...	60	36			89	7	30	5	179	48
TOTAL—Items 1 and 2... ...	216	106			175	13	49	16	441	135
3. Number of persons who ceased to attend the out-patient Clinic										
(a) before completing a course of treatment for	129	47			57	5			186	52
(b) after completion of a course of treatment, but before final tests as to cure of										
4. Number of persons transferred to other Treatment Centres after treatment for :—										
5. Number of persons discharged from the out-patient Clinic after completion of treatment and observation for :—	3	1			82				85	1
6. Number of persons who, on the 1st Jany., 1921, were under treatment or observation for :—	81	58			36	8	2	1	122	67
TOTAL—Items 3, 4, 5 and 6... ...	216	106			175	13	2	1	393	120
7. Total attendances of all persons at the out-patient Clinic who were suffering from :—	779	384			1736	63	66	16	463	2581
8. Aggregate number of "in-patient days" of treatment given to persons who were suffering from :—	137	7							137	7

	FOR DETECTION OF			For Wassermann Reaction
	Spirochetes	Gonococci	Other Organisms	
9. Examinations of Pathological Material :—				
(a) Specimens which were examined at, and by the Medical Officer of the Treatment Centre ...				
(b) Specimens from persons attending at the Treatment Centre which were sent for examination to an approved Laboratory...				
		47		204

Statement showing the services rendered at the Treatment Centre during the year, classified according to the areas in which the patient resides.

Name of County or County Borough.	Dewsbury	West Riding.					Total.
A. Number of persons from each area dealt with during the year at or in connection with the out-patient Clinic, <i>for the first time</i> , and found to be suffering from :—							
Syphilis... 44 52							96
Soft Chancre 							
Gonorrhœa 52 44							96
Conditions other than Venereal ... 15 20							35
	TOTAL ...	111	116				227
B. Total number of attendances at the out-patient Clinic of all patients residing in each area 1448 1596							3044
C. Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of all patients residing in each area ...							
D. Number of doses of (1. Out-patient Clinic Salvarsan substitutes given in the :— (2. In-patient Dept. to patients residing in each area ...	338	463					801
E. Give the names of Salvarsan substitutes used in the treatment of Syphilis and the usual initial and final doses			Novarsenobenzol 4 doses .45. 4 doses .60 in primary course 4 doses .60 in Secondary course				
F. State the number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes usually given in a full course of treatment		Twelve					
G. State in what proportion of cases, approximately, Salvarsan substitutes are used in the treatment of Syphilis 			100 per cent.				
H. State the nature of tests applied in deciding as to discharge of patients referred to in Item 5 on previous page 							

The number of attendances to the Clinic for Daily Treatment inclusive of Gonorrhœa, Syphilis, Non Venereal Proflactic etc, were :—

Dewsbury ...	...	...	4262
West Riding ...	...	...	5213

The arrangements made by the Local Authority with the Dewsbury and District General Infirmary, remain the same as described fully in the report of my predecessor.

The number of new cases occurring shows a decrease in all diseases.

The Health Committee has continued its policy of subsidising the propaganda undertaken by the local branch of the National Council for Combating Venereal Disease. A Teachers course, organised by Dr. Halliwell, was continued. The Film "The End of the Road" was exhibited, admission being free. Popular lectures at the Town Hall and also in Clubs have been held.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Work of the Health Visitors.

		Soothills and All Saints	Ravensthorpe St. John's East and West	Trinity North and South	Thornhill North and South	TOTAL
Births—1st visits ...	..	282	471	258	248	1259
,, — re-visits ...	..	1536	1664	876	1442	5518
Still Births ...	..	13	22	10	6	51
Ophthalmia Cases...	..	9	30	21	31	91
Puerperal Fever Cases	..	1	1	1		3
Measles Cases ...	..	10	131	84	110	335
Diarrhoea Cases ...	..	11	14	24	14	63
Pneumonia Cases ...	..	2	8	13	10	33
Malaria Cases ..	..	1	1		3	5
Visits to Expectant Mothers		60	20	81	75	236
Visits to Children (aged 1-5 years)		889	183	814	477	1853
Other Visits ...	...	16	19	24	25	84
		2830	2564	1696	2441	9531

The work of the Health Visitors during 1920 has unfortunately been rather disorganised owing to various causes. During January and February, only one visitor was available; two had gone for training for the C.M.B. and one

had resigned. For nearly 3 months in the first half of the year one Health Visitor was ill, whilst for the whole of the first half one was away training for the C.M.B. When this nurse came back in July, the full staff was maintained until November, then another nurse went for C.M.B. training. The Health Committee approved of these two nurses going and paid the expenses for the training. The extra nurse obtained to do duty during the absences of the regular nurses, was appointed Tuberculosis Nurse on the Corporation taking over the Tuberculosis work from the West Riding County Council on September 1st. In comparing the figures given above, it should be remembered that the Thornhill area is very extensive and comparatively thinly populated. The low relative returns for Trinity North and South, are caused by the illness of the nurse responsible for this district in the early part of the year; and her absence for training during November and December.

The quantity and quality of the work done by the nurses can be considered to be very satisfactory. In addition to their visiting, they attend at the Weekly Consultation Clinic on Wednesdays.

During Health Week, May 3rd to 7th inclusive, a Maternity and Child Welfare Exhibition was organised in the Exchange Hall and was very well attended. On May 5th, a tea was given to the mothers assembled with their babies. Over 200 mothers sat down, and before having tea, listened to a short and instructive address by Dr. Violet Glover. Credit is due to the Health Visitors for the manner in which they arranged the exhibition, with the kind aid of various firms both in and outside the town.

The Staff of Health Visitors is adequate for the needs of the Town at present, but additional Centres are needed, particularly one to serve the Thornhill area. It is hoped to establish one next year.

The usual lectures to girls from the home-making school upon mothercraft, have been given, and practical help shown in the care and feeding of babies. If similar lectures could be held for all girls leaving school, a large amount of very

useful knowledge would be handed on to future mothers.

The arrangements for dealing with Venereal disease in babies and their mothers, are similar to those in past years. The suspected cases are referred to the venereal Clinic at the Infirmary for treatment. I am of the opinion that if these cases were dealt with at the Maternity Clinic a larger proportion would come under treatment. In spite of advice regarding the necessity for treatment, the fact that they have to attend a new institution, with the reasons for treatment known to be those for Venereal disease, deters the large majority from going. Unwilling to follow advice and unwilling to face reproof for not doing so, these mothers just drop out and cease to attend anywhere. If treated at the Clinic, they would attend a place they know, and treatment would be given without any special label attached thereto. I consider that Syphilis has not played a very prominent part in the ill-health of babies or mothers who attend the consultations.

ATTENDANCES AT THE TOWN HALL CLINIC.

Total Attendances at Clinic	...	3766
Primary Attendances	...	419
Cases Examined	...	250

Advice is given at the Clinic upon feeding, clothing and the general care of the baby. The Babies are weighed (in clothes) and, if thought necessary by the nurses, are referred to the doctor for examination.

No treatment is carried out ; the mothers being referred to their own doctors. It is doubtful if this advice is always obeyed ; the omission being usually due to lack of means to pay the doctor's fees.

In Ophthalmia neonatorum, a surveillance is kept upon the case until cure is effected ; the Health Visitor going to the homes daily to instruct the mother as to carrying out any treatment recommended. Of the 21 cases of Ophthalmia notified, 10 were treated by their private doctors, 8 at the Dewsbury Infirmary and 2 at the M. & C. W. Clinic. In one case attended by a private doctor, the baby died before

the eyes cleared up. In another case the right eye was damaged. In the other 19 cases the eyes were ultimately found to be quite clear. This is a satisfactory result.

STILL BIRTHS.

56 Still Births were notified during 1920, giving a proportion of 1 still born child to 23 living born children. Of the total number of children born in Dewsbury in 1920, 4.2% were born dead.

An enquiry into the cause of this elicits the following information :—

Still Birth Rate per 100 Births.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Dewsbury ...	4.2	5.2	3.7	4.4	4.1
Ravensthorpe ...	7.0	5.2	3.4	2.4	6.3
Earlsheaton ...	8.4	3.5	4.6	3.3	5.2
Thornhill ..	3.7	3.7	6.3	4.4	3.6
	6.4	4.6	4.3	4.07	4.4

The Still Birth problem is an important one. Unfortunately at the present time legislation upon this matter is in an incomplete state. The notification of still births is not always carried out as, when a woman is attended by a doctor and an unqualified midwife, the notification of the still birth is not necessarily the specific duty of anyone. A registered midwife, on the other hand, is required by the Rules of the Central Midwives Board, to notify any still births occurring in her practice.

Delivery.

Delivered by Doctors	32	14 instrumental deliveries.
Delivered by Midwives	9	28 prolonged labours.
Delivered by Handywomen	8	

Presentation.

Vertex, 30. Breech, 11; Foot, 4; Transverse 3.

In 19 cases the women were Primiparae, in 29 cases Multiparae.

In 41 instances the mothers did house work only. In 7, the mothers worked up to varying times before confinement.

In 8 cases only was there any history of previous injury or fall. In 10 other instances the mothers had been in poor health during pregnancy.

No previous still births had taken place in 38 mothers, whilst in 10 one previous still birth was recorded. In six of these no pregnancy had taken place in between.

A possible syphilitic cause was surmised in 4 cases.

In two cases the mother also died, both deaths being due to Post partum haemorrhage.

Eclampsia was the cause of still birth in one case. The baby being born a month before term.

In eight cases of still birth no data were available.

Maternal Mortality.

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births.

	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Dewsbury	... 4.9	3.6	4.3	9.4	7.1	4.6
Ravensthorpe	. 24.5	20.9		8.6	9.0	28.1
Earlsheaton	.. 5.2	13.5	7.0		6.6	5.3
Thornhill	. 4.7	7.7				4.0
	9.2	8.1	3.2	4.3	5.6	6.1

Provision of Dried Milk, Etc., 1920.

Average amount in lbs. distributed weekly 22.6 lbs.

Total amount in lbs. distributed free 1178 lbs.

Number of necessitous mothers receiving food 47

(1) For use of Babies	40
(2) For own use	7

Fresh Milk Supplied (Milk, Mothers and Children Order, 1919).

Total Amount in pints	...	1358 pints.
Average period of supply	...	28 days.
Average amount per head per diem	...	2 pints.
Number of Recipients	...	24
(1) For use of Babies	...	5
(2) For Mother's use	...	19

Other Substances.

Virol	...	...	496 lbs.
Virolax	...	...	269 tins.
Lactargol	...	...	77 packets.
Chymol	...	...	28 lbs.
Nestlè's Milk	...	...	21 tins.

No food was sold during 1920, but the Health Committee have sanctioned the sale of dried milks to commence on January 1st, 1921. This will entail a considerable increase of work on the part of the staff, as the income and expenditure of each applicant have to be investigated. appended are the scale of income fixed and the price to be paid for the food, and also the application form to be filled in by the person desiring the benefit of the reduced prices of tariff. It is not intended to sell any article other than dried milks.

In all cases where a mother is breast feeding her child, every endeavour is made to encourage her to persist. The greater amount of the fresh milk, all the Lactargol, and some of the dried milk was given for this purpose. If a mother, receiving milk, discontinues breast feeding against advice, the supply of milk granted from the Centre would be stopped immediately. No milk, etc., is granted to mothers who do not bring their children to the centre regularly. The milk under the Milk Order of 1919, is purchased from the mother's own dairyman by order from the Medical Officer of Health. All cases receiving free foods, etc., are submitted to the M.O.H. before an order to supply is granted.

One short set of clothes, two long sets, and two night-dresses were supplied—through the kindness of the Patriotic Fund Committee—to the widow of an ex-service man, in difficult circumstances.

County Borough of Dewsbury.

Enquiry Form.

SALE OF INFANTS' FOOD.

4

Public Health Offices,
Dewsbury,

..... 192

Notice.—For making False Statements, Persons are
liable to be prosecuted.

Name.....

Address.....

Number in Family :—

Adults..... Children..... Lodgers.....

Amount of money coming into the home:

From Family.....

From Lodgers

From Health Insurance

From Pension

From Trades Union

From Guardians' Relief

Number Working (with names)

.....

.....

Rent of House

Expenses of Gas, Coal and Clubs

Signature

Date

County Borough of Dewsbury.

Notice.

On and after January 1st, 1921, Dried Milk Foods (Glaxo and Cow and Gate), will be sold at the Infant Welfare Centre to Mothers attending with their Babies. The Scale appended will be rigidly adhered to.

- (1) When the Income does not exceed 7/- per head, per week, after Rent, Insurance, Gas and Coal have been paid, the Milk is supplied free.
- (2) When the Income exceeds 7/- per head, per week, but does not exceed 9/-, the Milk is supplied at 50% cost price, i.e., half cost (1/2 per lb. packet).
- (3) When the Income exceeds 9/- per head, per week, but does not exceed 13/6, the Milk is supplied at cost price, i.e. (2/4 per lb. packet).
- (4) When the Income exceeds 13/6 per head, per week, after deducting Rent, Insurance, Gas and Coal, the Milk must be obtained at shops in the ordinary way.

Medical Officer of Health.

December, 1920.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

There are no Voluntary M. & C.W. Clinics in Dewsbury. The Dewsbury Day Nursery, however, carries out a useful work, and is recognised by the Ministry of Health as eligible for their grant in aid.

I am indebted to the Hon. Sec., Miss Chadwick, for the following figures.

No. of children in attendance during 1920	...	8,385
No. of half-day attendances under 3 years of age	1,051	
No. of whole day attendances under 3 years of age	6,242	
No. of half-day attendances over 3 years of age	95	
No. of whole day attendances over 3 years of age	997	
No. of children accommodated at night as well as day	4	
No. of children accommodation at night only	...	116

The attendances during the first half of 1920 considerably exceeded those of the second half. The cause of this can be found in the state of trade in the district.

An inspection I made of the Nursery showed everything to be in a high state of order and cleanliness. The children were clean and happy, and the routine procedure adopted was sound. That the Nursery fills a want is illustrated by perusing the above figures.

The Dewsbury and District Nursing Association receives an annual grant of £50 from the Corporation, and during the year 43 cases of Measles were nursed and 654 visits paid. The nurses are available for supplementing the nursing services of the Corporation and undoubtedly play a useful part in the Health activities of the town.

SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES, ETC.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.

Six Midwives resident within the Borough notified their intention to practice during 1920. Three of these have their C.M.B. and three are bona fide practitioners. One of the latter confines her attentions to monthly nursing exclusively.

Six midwives non-resident in the Borough, notified their attention to practice, of whom two have their C.M.B.

One of the resident midwives was formerly a Health visitor who was trained for the C.M.B. at the Corporation's expense and who is now subsidised by them to the amount of £140 per annum for two years.

Nine inspections were made during the year of midwives in the Borough. The three qualified midwives have invariably shown a high standard of cleanliness.

Undoubtedly there is a serious dearth of properly trained women to act as midwives in the Borough. In some districts, e.g., Thornhill, Earlsheaton, there is no resident midwife, and the doctors are compelled to fall back upon the antiquated and unsatisfactory method of "handywomem" help. Besides increasing the work of medical practitioners, this system is not good in other ways. During 1920, a strict watch has been kept upon the activities of non-qualified midwives. It has been necessary to report several women for infringement of Sec. 1 (2) of the Midwives Act, 1902. The Medical Practitioners were also fully informed of the position and the proposed line of action to be taken in the future. At a meeting of the Dewsbury Panel and Local Medical Committee called to consider this matter, I laid the whole position before the members, and at the conclusion obtained their promise of all the support they could give. If the evil of untrained

women being allowed to practice midwifery is to be controlled, the law in regard thereto must be more stringent; the hearty co-operation of medical practitioners obtained and an adequate supply of trained midwives, who are guaranteed a living income, supplied.

The Local Authority are required under the Midwives Act, 1902-1918, to pay the practitioners' fees in the case of his being called in by a qualified midwife. A scale has been fixed by the Ministry of Health.

The Local Authority is also empowered to recover the fee from the patient or her husband, either summarily or as a civil debt, unless it is shown that the circumstances are such as to preclude any payment. This section entails a fair amount of investigation on the part of the Health Visitors.

The Dewsbury Local Authority have also been in the habit of assisting to pay, or paying in full, the Midwives fee, if the patient's circumstances warrant this course being taken.

The births attended by the qualified midwives were:—			
Mrs. Hallilay, C.M.B.	220	Nurse Bamford, C.M.B.	12
		(subsidised)	
Mrs. Bates	126	Mrs. Powell	56
Mrs. Gibbs, C.M.B.	3	Mrs. Dawson	43
	(3 months.)		

Fifty-eight Medical Aid Forms were received from Midwives. The reasons for sending for medical aid were:— Delayed Labour 14; Abnormal Presentation 11; Discharge from Baby's Eye 8; Feebleness of Baby 5; Hæmorrhage 4; Rash on Baby 3; Premature Baby 3; Torn Perineum 3; Prolapse of Cord 2; Twins 1; Rise of Maternal Temperature 1; Varicose Veins 1; Miscarriage 1; Illness of mother 1.

26 Notifications of Still Birth were received from Midwives.

Notification of Births Act, 1915.

Number of Births Notified by Doctors	...	983
Number of Births Notified by Midwives	...	151
Number of Births Notified by Others	...	9
	—	
	1143	—

128 births were not notified. These included miscarriages, children born in the Poor Law Infirmary, and those born outside the area.

The percentage of births notified to total births was 90%.

Number of Births Attended by Doctors	...	...	794
Number of Births Attended by Midwives (Qualified)	...	...	372
Number of Births Attended by Midwives (Unqualified) alone	2		

HOUSING.

General Housing conditions.

There is a considerable shortage of houses of the smaller type suitable for the average labouring class family. Many of the existing houses of this type are unsuitable owing to age, decay, unsatisfactory surroundings and position, and other factors. The houses now in process of erection, although quite satisfactory as regards accommodation, are at too high a rental for many of the people who need them most. Owing to this, the overcrowding in the poorer parts of the town, and the objectionable system of two or more families sharing a house will not be very greatly ameliorated. The present slump in trade and lack of employment has accentuated this, so much so that families who applied for Corporation houses a year or so ago, now find themselves unable to afford them. What is needed is a house with one large living room and scullery, three bedrooms and bathroom with W.C., and a small garden plot, at a rental of 5/- or 6/- per week. The present rentals of 8/6, 10/6 and 12/-, without rates, are too high to afford any relief to the serious overcrowding prevailing in the poorer districts.

During the war, house property was, perforce, neglected, and there are large arrears of repairs to make up. With the high prices, owners are reluctant to do any more than they are compelled to do, and even then, owners of large blocks of "cottage" property have shown how the rentals for many months, and in some cases years, are swallowed up.

The problem of the careless and dirty tenant is everlasting. It is only reasonable that landlords should be afforded some guarantee that, when they endeavour to improve their property, it should be subjected to fair wear and tear

only. Legislation upon the point would strengthen the hands of Sanitary Authorities considerably.

As it has been impossible to obtain alternative accommodation, no houses have been closed, and no conversions of back-to-back property into through houses attempted. Until better accommodation can be found for the tenants who would necessarily be deposed, it would be folly to undertake this branch of housing improvement.

The number of back-to-back houses in the Borough is 4,450. Through houses 9,610. The percentage of back-to-back being 31.65%.

APPENDICES.

Housing Conditions.

STATISTICS—Year ended 31st December, 1920.

1.—GENERAL.

1. Estimated population - - - - -	55,080
2. General death-rate - - - - -	14.23
3. Death-rate from Tuberculosis (all forms) - - - - -	0.92
4. Infantile mortality - - - - -	110.15
5. Number of dwelling-houses of all classes - - - - -	14,060
6. Number of working-class dwelling-houses - - - - -	13,306
7. Number of new working-class houses erected - - - - -	14

2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.**I.—Inspection.**

1. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) - - - - -	P.H.A. 1163	H.A. 178
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910		1241
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation - - - - -		1
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation - - - - -		

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers - - - - -

Nil

III.—Action under Statutory Powers.A. *Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.*

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs - - - - -	178
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(a) by owners - - - - -	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners - - - - -	Nil

3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	- - - -	Nil
<i>B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</i>		
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	- - -	1163
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied— (a) by owners	- - -	1007
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	- - - -	Nil
<i>C. Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.</i>		
1. Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	-	One
2. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-	Nil
3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses being rendered fit	-	Nil
4. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	-	Nil
5. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	-	Nil
3.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.		
Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I., or (b), Part II., of the Act of 1890:—		
1. Name of area	- - - -	Dawgreen
2. Acreage	- - - -	5.72
3. Number of working-class houses in area		300
4. Number of working-class persons to be displaced	- - - -	1018 (approx.)
4.—Number of houses, not complying with the building byelaws, erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919	- - - -	Nil
5.—Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer	- -	Four
Each Sanitary Inspector does the Housing work in his district.		

SPECIAL REPORTS PRESENTED TO THE HEALTH COMMITTEE DURING 1920.

The following reports upon special subjects were presented to the Health Committee during the year:—

Maternity and Child Welfare.

1. On the need for a Maternity Home in Dewsbury.
2. On "Handywomen" in the Earlsheaton Area.
3. On the adaptability of Earlsheaton Hall as a Maternity Home.
4. On the advisability of allowing Milk Foods to be sold at the Clinic.
5. The case for a branch Clinic at Thornhill.

Tuberculosis.

1. Report upon taking over the Tuberculosis work of the Borough from the W.R.C.C.
2. Arrangements for carrying out the Tuberculosis Work.

Food.

1. Report upon proceedings taken under the Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations, 1915.

Miscellaneous.

1. Report upon Sanitary Conveniences available at the Theatres, Picture Palaces, etc., in the Borough, with particular reference to the Theatre Royal.
2. Investigation upon causes of emission of Chemical fumes in Savile Town.
3. Report upon Health Week.
4. Causes of nuisance at Bank Top Works, Earlsheaton.
5. Report upon Houses in Senior Street, Dawgreen.
6. Report upon Thirty-first Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
7. Cause of nuisance at Dye Works, Hartley Street.
8. Report upon Slaughter Houses in the Borough.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL FISH) REGULATIONS, 1915.

For some time it had been suspected that the consumption of shell-fish, particularly mussels, might be the cause of Enteric Fever and other less serious intestinal troubles. During November and December investigations were made into the quality and cleanliness of mussels coming into the Borough. The results were very disquieting. In the first batch examined which came from Lytham, the analyst reported that they were quite unfit for human consumption as they showed signs of being heavily polluted with human sewage. Another batch from Lympstone, on the estuary of the Exe, were just as unsatisfactory. Samples of Dutch mussels from Hull were then taken for examination. These were decidedly cleaner than the English mussels, but could not be called satisfactory.

Acting upon these reports the authorities responsible for the cleanliness of the layings were communicated with. In this connection it is of interest to note that an Order dated Nov. 1919, had been made by the Local Government Board, prohibiting the use of mussels from the Exe Estuary for use for human consumption. This order had been deliberately ignored and mussels from this source were having a large sale in many Northern towns. It was owing to the activities in Dewsbury regarding the wholesomeness of mussels, that this infringement was found out. The distribution of mussels from this particular source has now ceased.

In order to ascertain what effect the warning notices had had upon the consignors at the various layings, further samples were taken. In the case of Lytham mussels, considerable improvement was shown, although the cleanliness was by no means perfect. The Dutch mussels were found to be satisfactory.

Greater strictness of surveillance, care in packing and general cleanliness characterise the Dutch mussels and they are safer than those obtained from the English coast layings.

All shell-fish should be thoroughly cooked before eating. The pathogenic organisms are killed by exposure to boiling point for from 5—10 minutes. Unless the source is known and free from any suspicion of sewage contamination, there is always risk in consuming any kind of shell-fish in the raw state.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1920 and previous years.

Dewsbury C.B.

YEAR	Population	BIRTHS.			DEATHS.			ZYMOTIC DEATHS.			INFANTILE MORTALITY	
		Total Births.	Birth Rate.	Birth Rate England and Wales.	Total Deaths.	Death Rate.	Death Rate England and Wales.	Total Zymotic Deaths.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate England and Wales.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.	England and Wales.
1910 ...	51224	1061	20.71	25.1	846	16.51	13.5	55	1.07	0.99	147.12	106
1911 ...	53411	1160	21.7	24.3	932	17.4	14.6	130	2.4	1.88	154.3	130
1912 ...	53630	1199	22.35	23.9	828	15.4	13.3	62	1.15	0.99	102.5	95
1913 ...	53856	1261	23.4	24.1	907	16.8	13.8	46	0.85	2.49	131.3	109
1914 ...	54082	1293	23.9	23.8	860	15.9	14.0	66	1.2		113.7	105
1915 ...	Special Estimation 53,299. Normal Estimation 54,314.	1135	20.98	21.9	913	17.12	15.7	23	0.4		116.3	110
1916 ...	Special Estimation for Birth Rate 56,419. Special Estimation for Death Rate 51,855. Normal Estimation 54,546.	1104	19.5	20.9	791	15.2	14.4	54	1.01			
1917 ...	Special Estimation for Birth Rate 58,237. Special Estimation for Death Rate 52,244. Normal Estimation 54,781.	925	15.8	17.8	739	14.1	14.4	65	1.2		97	96
1918 ...	Special Estimation for Birth Rate 52,775, Estimation for Death Rate 47,101. Normal Estimation 55,003.	919	17.4	17.7	956	20.25	17.6	25	0.5		112	97
1919 ...	Special Estimation for Birth Rate 55,178, Estimation for Death Rate 52,969. Normal Estimation 55,257.	1056	19.1	18.5	930	17.5	13.8	31	0.58		110.7	89
1920 ..	Registrar General's Estimation 55,080.	1271	23.07	*25.4	784	14.2	*12.4	48	0.87		110.1	80

*These figures for 1920 are the provisional ones supplied by the Registrar General for England and Wales.

TABLE II.

Causes of Deaths in the Municipal Wards during the year 1920.

TABLE III.

Causes of Deaths in Dewsbury for 7 years,
1914—1920.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Enteric Fever	..	..	3	3	1	1	4	*1
Small Pox	..	..	1					
Measles	..	..	9	11	2	36	4	6
Scarlet Fever	..	..	2	3	1		3	3
Whooping Cough	..	..	7	15	5	10	9	5
Diphtheria and Croup	..	..	5	8	6	11	8	5
Influenza	..	..	7	18	13	4	184	93
Erysipelas	..	..	1	2				19
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	..	61	50	42	52	43	38	37
Tuberculous Meningitis	..	10	4	2	3	5	2	7
Other Tuberculous Disease	..	6	9	8	8	8	8	7
Cancer (Malignant Disease)	..	54	66	56	59	55	73	68
Rheumatic Fever	..	9	11	5	2	6	5	3
Meningitis	..	8	2	4	4	5	3	5
Organic Heart Disease	..	99	99	98	72	76	91	88
Bronchitis	..	60	105	87	76	120	124	98
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	87	77	48	66	80	78	49
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	..	1	5	4	6	1	5	8
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	..	43	18	22	13	12	23	22
Appendicitis and Typhilitis	..	8	5	6	5	2	2	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	12	2	3	2	2		4
Alcoholism	..							
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	..	40	47	32	34	44	51	42
Puerperal Fever	..	4	2	2	2	2		3
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	..	6	6	9	1	4	6	5
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	..	52	46	47	38	48	56	56
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	..	23	29	19	23	15	20	16
Suicide	..	8	8	6	3	8	3	4
Other Diseases	..	234	361	264	208	214	222	215
TOTALS	..	860	913	791	739	956	930	784

* Resident died outside Borough.

TABLE IV.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1920.
Dewsbury C.B.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases Notified.					Total Cases Notified in each Locality.										
	At all Ages.		At Ages—Years.			Dewsbury		Ravensthorpe			Thorhill		Soothills		Total.	
	Under 1.	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 12 years	13 and under 20 years	21 and under 30 years	31 and under 40 years	40 and upwards	27	4	2	13	10	5	1	50	45
Small-pox	50	10	27	10	2	1	3	27	4	7	11	5	1	50	45	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	7	25	94	11	1	1	1	29	4	2	10	84	7	7	117	
Erysipelas	136	25	94	11	1	1	1	2	2	2	136	136	2	2	2	
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Typhus Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro Spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	351	22	46	37	42	32	29	42	43	43	126	351	28	29	207	

TABLE V.

Table showing deaths of persons belonging to Dewsbury classified according to ages for 7 years.

Year	At all ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
1914	860	147	70	18	39	353	233
1915	913	132	77	31	19	383	271
1916	791	104	45	27	25	319	271
1917	739	90	76	39	19	298	217
1918	956	103	94	56	42	415	246
1919	930	117	61	45	36	394	277
1920	784	140	61	30	34	315	204

TABLE VI.

